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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Room TWB-204
Washington, DC 20054

Re: Implementation of the Local Competition Provisions of the
Telecommunications Act of 1996, CC Docket No. 96-98
Ex Parte
REDACTED — FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On September 25, 2002, SNiP LiNK LLC ("SNiP LiNK"), a facilities-based CLBC operating in New Jersey, Delaware and Southeastern Pennsylvania, provided several case studies demonstrating SNiP LiNK's impairment without access to enhanced extended links ("EELs") throughout its market areas. See, *Letter from Steven A. Augustino to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission*, filed in CC Docket 96-98 ("September 25 ex parte"). Each of the case studies in the September 25 ex parte described an actual customer of SNiP LiNK's that was served using a DS-1 EEL. In each instance, SNiP LiNK demonstrated that it had no economical alternative to serving that customer other than a DS-1 EEL.

During these meetings, Commission staff inquired as to whether SNiP LiNK's ability to provide telecommunications service also was impaired without the availability of DS-3 EELs. The representatives from SNiP LiNK indicated that they were equally reliant upon EELs at the DS-3 level as at the DS-1 level. To illustrate this, SNiP LiNK has prepared the attached additional case study involving a DS-3 customer that SNiP LiNK is in the process of installing (Attachment A). The customer in question here has several locations, each of which currently uses several hundred Centrex lines. SNiP LiNK would serve this customer with at least one DS-3 circuit into each customer premise (along with additional SNiP LiNK equipment to

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Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
November 21, 2002
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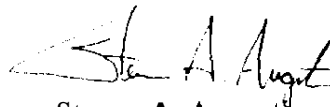
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break the DS-3 into the hundreds of voice channels used by the customer). As shown in the case study, although the customer undoubtedly is large, SNiP LiNK is impaired without access to EELs to serve this customer.

The case study contains confidential information and financial calculations which might be used to identify the specific SNiP LiNK customer that is the subject of the study. Due to the sensitive nature of the information contained in this case study, SNiP LiNK requests confidential treatment pursuant to the Commission's Protective Order issued March 27, 2002 in this proceeding. Consequently, Attachment A has been redacted from this public filing. The Attachment is being filed with the Office of the Secretary under separate cover letter. A confidential copy of Attachment A has also been served on Janice Myles of the Competitive Policy Division. Attachment A is available for inspection by parties pursuant to the terms of the Protective Order by contacting the undersigned.

In accordance with Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, an original and one copy of this letter is being filed with your office. If you have any questions concerning this filing, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven A. Augustino

Enclosures

cc: Michelle Carey
Toni Navin
Rob Tanner
Jeremy Miller
Mike Engel

ATTACHMENT A

(REDACTED)